IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

) RE: Preliminary Amendment Applicant(s): Siani Lynne Pearson, et al.) Group: 2818 U.S. Appłn. No.: 10/080,479 U.S. Filing Date: February, 22, 2002) Examiner: not yet assigned) Our Ref: B-4517 619563-3 For: "METHOD AND APPARATUS OF ASCERTAINING THE STATUS OF A

DATA PROCESSING ENVIRONMENT") Date: December 4, 20

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

GROUP 3600 This paper is filed as a Preliminary Amendment for the above-Please amend the identified application being filed herewith. All amendments above-identified application as described below. and remarks herein are made without prejudice.

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.